

What is Claimed is:

1. A method for executing a trade for a tradable item, comprising:receiving a first trading command from a first party to make a spread market for
5 the tradable item;
receiving a second trading command from a second party in response to the spread market;
when the second trading command is a hit command, receiving from the second party a third trading
10 command to make a price/size market for the tradable item and receiving a fourth trading command from the first party in response to the price/size market; and
when the second trading command is a take command, receiving from the first party a third trading
15 command to make a price/size market for the tradable item and receiving a fourth trading command from the second party in response to the price/size market.
2. The method of claim 1, further comprising requiring the second party to submit the third trading command within a given time period from receipt of the second trading command
3. The method of claim 2, further comprising blocking the second party from participating in a market when the third trading command is not received within the given period of time.
4. The method of claim 2, further comprising charging a fee to the second party when the third trading command is not received within the given period of time.

5. The method of claim 2, further comprising automatically entering a default trading command from the second party as the third trading command when the third trading command is not received within the given period of time.

6. The method of claim 1, further comprising requiring the first party to submit the third trading command within a given time period from receipt of the second trading command.

7. The method of claim 6, further comprising blocking the first party from participating in a market when the third trading command is not received within the given period of time.

8. The method of claim 1, wherein the spread market comprises a bid side and an offer side.

9. The method of claim 8, wherein the bid side comprises a spread and a size.

10. The method of claim 8, wherein the offer side comprises a spread and a size.

11. The method of claim 1, wherein the price/size market comprises a bid and an offer.

12. The method of claim 11, wherein the bid comprises a price and a size.

13. The method of claim 11, wherein the offer comprises a price and a size.

14. A system for executing a trade for a tradable item, comprising:

first workstation that receives a first trading command from a first party to make a spread market for the tradable item;

a second workstation that receives a second trading command from a second party in response to the spread market; and

a server that: when the second trading command is a hit command, receives from the second workstation a third trading command to make a price/size market for the tradable item and receives a fourth trading command from the first workstation in response to the price/size market; and when the second trading command is a take command, receives from the first workstation a third trading command to make a price/size market for the tradable item and receives a fourth trading command from the second workstation in response to the price/size market.

15. The system of claim 14, wherein the server also requires the second party to submit the third trading command within a given time period from receipt of the second trading command.

16. The system of claim 15, wherein the server also blocks the second party from participating in a market when the third trading command is not received within the given period of time.

17. The system of claim 15, wherein the server also charges a fee to the second party when the third trading command is not received within the given period of time.

18. The system of claim 15, wherein the server also automatically enters a default trading command from

the second party as the third trading command when the
third trading command is not received within the given
5 period of time.

19. The system of claim 14, wherein the server
also requires the first party to submit the third trading
command within a given time period from receipt of the
second trading command.

20. The system of claim 19, wherein the server
also blocks the first party from participating in a
market when the third trading command is not received
within the given period of time.

21. The system of claim 14, wherein the spread
market comprises a bid side and an offer side.

22. The system of claim 21, wherein the bid
side comprises a spread and a size.

23. The system of claim 21, wherein the offer
side comprises a spread and a size.

24. The system of claim 14, wherein the
price/size market comprises a bid and an offer.

25. The system of claim 24, wherein the bid
comprises a price and a size.

26. The system of claim 24, wherein the offer
comprises a price and a size